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| 10/567,939 | 12/04/2006 | Alexander Abbas | P2053R1-1 | 3703 |
| 9157 | | | EXAMINER | |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Application No. Applicant(s) 10/567.939 ABBAS ET AL. Office Action Summary Examiner Art Unit ANAND U. DESAL 1656 -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS. WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 October 2007. 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected 7) Claim(s) is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) 1-27 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are; a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abevance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of: Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

Attachment(s)

Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

6) Other:

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Groups 1-6464, claim(s) 1-7, drawn to an isolated nucleic acid, a vector, a host cell comprising the isolated nucleic acid, and a process of producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell, wherein each SEQ ID NO: identifies a patentably distinct chemical structure of an isolated nucleic acid molecule (e.g. Group I is drawn to SEQ ID NO: 1, Group II is drawn to SEQ ID NO: 2, etc).

Group 6465-12928, claim(s) 8-12 and 13-16 as drawn to an isolated polypeptide, a chimeric molecule comprising the polypeptide, wherein each SEQ ID NO: identifies a patentably distinct chemical structure of an amino acid sequence.

Group 12929-19392, claim(s) 11, 12 and 13-16 as drawn to an antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide identified by a SEQ ID NO:.

Group 19393-25857, claim(s) 17, 18, and 26, drawn to a method of treating an immune related disorder in a mammal comprising administering a polypeptide identified by SEQ ID NO:.

Group 25858-32221, claim(s) 19-21, drawn to a method of determining the binding of a peptide with an antibody, wherein the peptide is identified by SEQ ID NO:.

Group 32222-38686, claim(s) 22, drawn to a method of identifying a compound that inhibits the activity of a polypeptide identified by SEQ ID NO: comprising contacting cells which normally respond to said polypeptide with a candidate compound and determining the lack of responsiveness by said cell to said polypeptide.

Group 38687-45151, claim(s) 23 and 24, drawn to a method of identifying a compound that inhibits the expression of a gene.

Group 45152-51615, claim(s) 25, drawn to a method of identifying a compound that mimics the activity of a polypeptide identified by SEQ ID NO:.

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Group 51616-58080, claim(s) 27, drawn to a method of quantifying the expression level of a polypeptide identified by SEQ ID NO:.

- 2. The inventions listed as Groups 1-58080 do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: the technical feature linking groups 1-58080 appears to be that they all relate to an isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide identified by SEQ ID NO:. However, Homo sapien ribosomal protein L21 was known in the prior art (see GI: 18104948, attached sequence listing). Therefore, the technical feature linking the inventions of groups 1-58080 does not constitute a special technical feature as defined by PCT Rule 13.2, as it does not define a contribution over the prior art. Accordingly, groups 1-58080 are not so linked by the same or a corresponding special technical feature as to form a single general inventive concept.
- Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an
 election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed
 (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To preserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

- 4. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).
- 5. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims. Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and the product claims are subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of

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the allowable product claim will be considered for rejoinder. <u>All</u> claims directed to a nonelected process invention must require all the limitations of an allowable product claim for that process invention to be rejoined.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103 and 112. Until all claims to the elected product are found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowable product claim will not be rejoined. See MPEP § 821.04(b). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution to require the limitations of the product claims. Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder. Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANAND U. DESAI whose telephone number is (571)272-0947. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dr. Kathleen Kerr Bragdon can be reached on (517) 272-0931. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

June 21, 2008

/Anand U Desai, Ph.D./ Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1656